

As we continue through February, the Recovery Office is excited about the information being released about federal funding, and the Kansas programs supporting recovery and growth out of the pandemic.

Many of you are aware of the ongoing discussions in Washington about the next round of relief funding from the Biden administration. We will share updates as they become available through this newsletter. For more frequent news, please visit our website at covid.ks.gov



Services and Support

Not exhaustive

Health

- To find your nearest vaccination location, please visit the <u>Find My Vaccine Tool</u>.
 For all the latest information on doses administered, safety and more, please visit <u>www.kansasvaccine.gov</u>.
- To find out where to get tested for COVID-19, visit Go Get Tested.
- Uninsured or underinsured? You can apply for insurance through the
 <u>Healthcare.gov</u> marketplace or, if you qualify for Medicaid, visit the <u>KanCare</u> website.

Business

 Small businesses can apply for forgivable loans through the Paycheck Protection Program until March 31. Please see the <u>Governor's news release</u> for more information.

Education

• Remote learning grants have been <u>reopened</u> through spring 2021. For questions, please email: <u>rlg-support@ku.edu</u>.

Essential Needs

- Kansans on **SNAP** will continue to see their **15% increase** in benefits until the end of
- Coming soon! Rental and utility assistance, including arrears coverage and future payments.

For the latest on how **2020 COVID Relief Funds** were spent, please visit the Office of Recovery's dashboard for the previous month's updates.



2021 COVID Relief Funding: Received

• Five Kansas' Community Mental Health Centers received expansion grants to develop into Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics.

2021 COVID Relief Funding: Updates Expected Soon

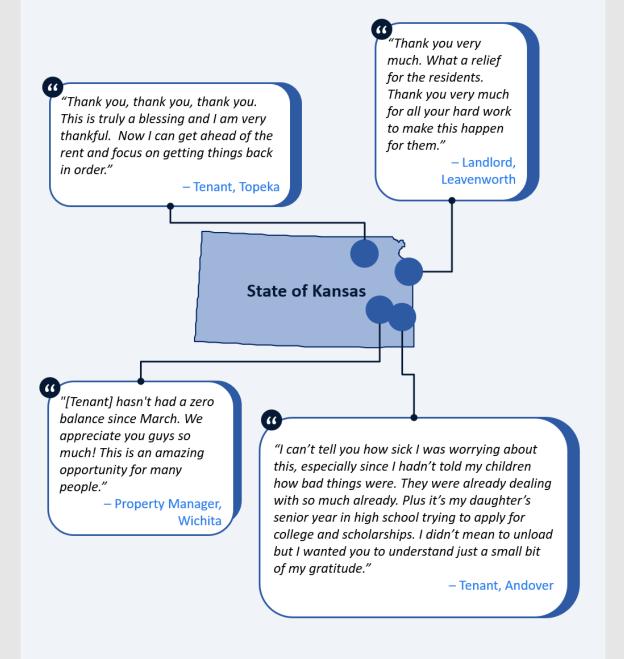
In the next month, we expect to hear updates from the federal government on:

- **Health care:** Grants for mental health and substance abuse and prevention treatment.
- Transportation: Airport support / grants.
- Education / childcare: Support for extended childcare to families, support for childcare providers, support for private schools and direct support to higher education institutions.
- Agriculture: Funding for specialty crops and stress relief.

Community Impact: Eviction Prevention

Last year, the Kansas Housing Resources Corporation (KHRC) launched the Kansas Eviction Prevention Program, a \$20 million statewide program to **support tenants who are behind on rent**. This program has served more than 7,800 households (representing more than 21,000 Kansans).

The impact of rental assistance programs cannot be understated. In the words of Kansans:



The financial impacts of this pandemic are not over, and KHRC will be launching the Kansas Emergency Rental Assistance Program on March 15. This will help tenants on past due rent, future rent and utilities.

For Wichita residents, the City of Wichita is administering the Wichita Emergency Rental Assistance Program, and its application will open on February 22.



Program Spotlight: Remote Learning

During the Fall 2020 school term, **77 organizations across Kansas** supported the remote learning needs of school-age children, funded with **more than \$8 million from the Remote Learning Grants program**. In-home child care providers, day care programs, child and youth serving organizations and even community attractions such as a museum and a zoo, came forward to help.

The Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund is **now accepting applications to extend programs** through the end of May.

According to John Mikos, president and CEO of the YMCA of Greater Kansas City, " The extension of the Remote Learning Grant program will help the Y support more than 1,400 kids from more than seven school districts in the Kansas City area this spring, plus many other kids in Wichita, southwest and central Kansas."

Applications are available <u>here</u> and will be reviewed on a weekly basis.

Program Spotlight: Special Enrollment for Health Insurance

For Kansas and all Americans across the country, there is now an opportunity to enroll for health insurance through the HealthCare.gov market place.

From February 15 to May 15, 2021, all U.S. citizens and nationals are eligible to enroll in a variety of private insurance plans that include different premiums, deductibles, and services. Kansans can apply for personal health insurance as well as insurance for spouses and children.

Kansans can apply online <u>here</u>. If you are not a U.S. citizen, you can check your eligiblity for these health insurance plans <u>here</u>.



The Office of Recovery is here to offer support and coordination, and staff are available to answer your questions by phone and email.

(785) 368-8507 Recovery@ks.gov

Warm Regards,

DeAngela Burns-Wallace, Ed.D.

On behalf of the Office of Recovery, Kansas Governor Laura Kelly Secretary, Kansas Department of Administration

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